

Math and Science Academy Contact Information

General Information: Math and Science Academy
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Find out much more information on our website: **mnmsa.org**

*New tab “Prospective Families” will be available on the
Math and Science Academy website – December 2013.*

About Us

The Math and Science Academy (MSA) is an innovative Charter School that is located in the City Center neighborhood of Woodbury, Minnesota. MSA is a tuition-free public school that serves students in grades six through twelve. It has a tradition of offering intense math and science experiences with the added distinction of providing creative and challenging opportunities in arts and humanities.

To meet this challenge, MSA students are expected to value and seek out their education. Students must be willing to diligently apply themselves to their studies, and be well organized and disciplined in their educational pursuits. Students are given opportunities to excel in rigorous math, science, humanities, music, art, and foreign language curriculums that reward critical thinking, effective time management, and collaboration with peers. These opportunities allow students to develop skills and competencies in many aspects of their lives; they provide a strong educational foundation which students can build upon after graduation.

Students are held to high standards in their academic work and their behavior, and they are expected to self-advocate to achieve these expectations. The students are expected to act responsibly towards their classmates, their teachers, the school staff, MSA family members, and themselves.

Our small school and small class sizes foster meaningful interaction among faculty, students, staff, and parents while promoting an atmosphere of self-advocacy, accountability, respect, and responsibility. MSA educates students to become leaders who have acquired excellent communication skills, conceptual understanding, and the ability to make wise choices that will lead to success.

Since MSA is a charter school and is run by parents and teachers, families need to be aware of the opportunities and responsibilities they have in ensuring the success of MSA students. MSA families are expected to support the policies of the school and the students in their studies.

Admissions and Enrollment Information

MSA is a public school. It is open to any Minnesota student as a free public education. Registration is required.

When can students register?

The Math and Science Academy will be accepting applications for the 2014-15 school year beginning on January 1, 2014. Registration ends in February 2014. If a grade level receives more applicants than spaces available, a lottery will be conducted to determine admission for that grade. The lottery will be held in March 2014.

Any student who applies after the deadline will be enrolled if there are openings in that grade, or added to the waiting list if there are no openings.

An application must be completed and submitted online for all prospective students in order to be considered. This requirement applies to sibling applicants. Preference will be given to siblings of a currently enrolled student.

Is there a waiting list?

Yes, MSA has a waiting list. All students who are not accepted for entry are automatically placed on a waiting list in the order of their draw in the lottery. Students remain on this waiting list until accepted for enrollment or until parents have their names removed. Students on the waiting list will have to apply each year. According to Minnesota state statute, each year is a separate enrollment period.

Sibling Preference

Siblings of currently enrolled students will receive preference for admission if an application is submitted by the deadline.

If more sibling applications are received than open spaces available at any grade level, a lottery will be conducted among all the applicants who met the deadline. Siblings who are not chosen will be placed on a waiting list and notified when a space becomes available.

Contact Us

Any questions regarding the application and enrollment should be directed to the main office at 651-578-7507.

General Information

What are the hours at the Math and Science Academy?

Students in 6th – 12th grade have 7 class periods, beginning their day at 7:30 a.m. and ending at 2:00 p.m. Classes are 47 minutes each day.

The Math and Science Academy's Staff

The Math and Science Academy has twenty-nine highly qualified licensed teachers, an athletic director, four administrative personnel, including the Director, five educational assistants, and several support positions.

What kinds of courses are offered?

The Math and Science Academy has a liberal arts program with an emphasis on math and science. Students must pass complete programs in science and math including biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, trigonometry, and calculus. This coursework is coupled with a strong humanities program that encompasses and/or exceeds all state requirements for English, Social Studies, foreign language, and physical education. Graduates meet or exceed the Minnesota Graduation Standards in all areas. Art and Music are also important components to the curriculum.

What electives are offered at MSA?

MSA has a wide variety of electives to choose from. We have several electives in the subjects of math, science, art, English, and social studies.

Why does MSA require six years of Spanish?

Our small staff limits our ability to teach multiple languages. Because Spanish is the second most prevalent language used in the United States, we have chosen to emphasize its study. We want our students to become proficient in the use of this language.

What role do parents play at the Math and Science Academy?

The Math and Science Academy is governed by parents, educators, and community members. All families with students at the Math and Science Academy are automatically part of the "Parent Team".

The Parent Team is committed to enhancing the educational experience of the students at MSA by conducting and/or supporting activities that supplement the standard curriculum, build community, foster communication, and encourage parent education. Everyone is encouraged to attend the meetings and participate in Parent Team activities.

Where is the Math and Science Academy located?

The Math and Science Academy (MSA) is an innovative Charter School that is located in the City Center neighborhood of Woodbury, Minnesota.

What transportation is available?

MSA is located within the boundaries of South Washington County School District 833. All students who live within District 833 boundaries are entitled to bussing as determined by that district. Students who reside outside District 833 boundaries must find their own way to school.

Activities at the Math and Science Academy

Academic Triathlon

Anime/Manga

Art Club

Asian Club

Boys Baseball

Boys Basketball

Chess Club

Choir

Computer Club

Cross Country Skiing

FIRST Robotics

Gaming Club

Geography Bee

Lego Robotics

Jazz

Madrigal Choir

Math Team

Middle School Orchestra

National Honor Society

Nordic Skiing

Newspaper Club (Slice of Pi)

Orchestra (Middle School and
High School)

Politics Club

Science Bowl

Spanish Club

Student Council

Symphony Orchestra

Track and Field

Yearbook Club

Yearly Productions

One Act Plays

NHS Variety Show

Theater Arts –musical
in May-June

Math & Science Academy High School Profile

2013-2014

MSA Course Requirements

Please see our website for course descriptions: mnmsa.org - click on "Forms and Resources" tab. Click on "Course book." All students are required to complete the following core courses to graduate. Where honors, A/P, or CIS are available they have been listed and would be taken in lieu of the "regular" course of that title. Note that some courses are not offered every year – we need a certain number of students to register before we offer the course. Our grading scale is based on 4.0 and is unweighted.

English (4 years of English required for graduation)

- English - 9th
- American Literature - 10th
- British Literature - 11th or 12th
- World Literature - 11th or 12th
- Expository Writing - 11th or 12th (not offered 2013)
- Research Writing - 11th or 12th (new 2013)
- Comp for Real Life - 11th or 12th (new 2013)

Fine Arts

- 2 semesters Fine Arts 9th-12th

Math (Calculus I required)

- Algebra II with Geometry
- Algebra III with Geom. and Trig. (new 2011-12)
- Pre-Calculus
- AP Calculus I AB (new 2010-11)
- AP Calculus II BC (new 2010-11)
- CIS Calculus (not offered in 2011-12 or 2013-14)

Physical Education

- 1 semester Health – 9th
- 1 semester Physical Education – 9th

Science (Biology, Chemistry & Physics required)

- Biology - 9th
- AP Biology – 9th or 10th (new 2012-2013)
- Chemistry – 10th or 11th
- AP Chemistry – 10th or 11th
- CIS Physics - 11th or 12th (new 2011-2012)
- CIS Physics Inquiry - 11th or 12th (new 2010-2011)
- AP Physics B - (not offered after 2011-2012)

Social Studies (World Hist., Am. Hist., Econ., and Political Science required)

- Ancient World History - 9th
- Modern World History - 10th
- American History – 11th or 12th
- CIS American History (Post Civil War) 11th or 12th (not offered 2011/2012)
- Political Science – 11th or 12th
- Economics – 11th or 12th

Spanish (3 years H.S. Spanish - or PSEO equivalent required)

- Spanish II - 9th
- Spanish III - 10th
- Spanish Literature and Conversation - 11th or 12th (previously named Spanish IV)

Electives 2010/11 – Science Fiction, Blogging, Celestial Mechanics, Speech

Electives 2011/12 - Electronics, Science Fiction, Speech, Geometry

Electives 2012/2013 – Electronics, Science Fiction, Speech, ACT/SAT Prep

Electives 2013/2014 – Debate, Geometry, Fab lab, Science Fiction, Visual Communication, Draw/Paint, Digital Photography, Speech, Sculpture & Crafts

Transcript Key:

Courses with the designation "Cent." Or "Cen" have been taken as PSEO at Century College, a local community college.

Courses with the designation "Con" have been taken as PSEO at Concordia University.

Courses with the designation "INH" have been taken as PSEO at Inver Hills Community College

Courses with the designation "Metro State" have been taken as PSEO at Metro State University

Courses with the designation "U of M" have been taken as PSEO at the University of Minnesota. ("UofM C" is Univ. of MN Crookston)

Courses taken with the designation "CIS" are called "College in the Schools" courses. These are University of Minnesota sponsored courses taught in the high school for college credit. Course requirements are the same as those at the University. Students receive credits and a transcript for these courses both from the University of Minnesota and MSA.

PSEO = Post Secondary Education Option. Student has taken college courses (with the same course requirements as other college students) in lieu of the same course at MSA. They receive credits and a transcript for these courses both from the college/university and MSA.